

STATE PARKS BOARD REPORT TO THE ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE SEPTEMBER 2011

The State Parks Board administers the Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Fund per A.R.S. 28-1176. Sixty percent of the funds transferred from the Arizona Department of Transportation are allocated to the State Parks Board. Since the passage of the Off-Highway Vehicle User Fee legislation (Chapter 294, 48th Legislature 2nd Regular Session 2008), State Parks has received \$6,724,243 in combined HURF and DECAL revenue. State Parks is allowed to use 12% (\$806,909) of the total revenue for administration of the program. Legislative sweeps and other appropriations have diverted \$4,283,350, leaving \$1,633,984 for prescribed uses. The DECAL portion of revenues since January 2009 is \$2,836,980.

A.R.S. 28-1176 (I.2) requires the State Parks Board to report to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Chairperson of the Senate Natural Resources and Rural Affairs committee, or its successor committee, and the Chairperson of the House of Representatives Natural Resources and Public Safety committee, or its successor committee "the amount of monies spent from the off-highway vehicle recreation fund during the preceding fiscal year for employee services."

At State Parks, \$314,977 was used to fund positions in FY 2011.

A.R.S. 28-1176 (I.4) requires the State Parks Board to report to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Chairperson of the Senate Natural Resources and Rural Affairs committee, or its successor committee, and the Chairperson of the House of Representatives Natural Resources and Public Safety committee, or its successor committee "the amount of monies spent from the off-highway vehicle recreation fund during the preceding fiscal year for information and education."

At State Parks, expenditures in this category include funding for: coordination and operating expenses for the OHV Ambassador Program and agency staff assigned to OHV management; purchase of equipment to assist agencies in monitoring OHV activities and contacting participants; coordination of youth safe and responsible use programs; and, development of safe and responsible use educational materials. Nine (9) projects have received \$575,053 and are in various stages of completion.

A.R.S. 28-1176 (I.6) requires the State Parks Board to report to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Chairperson of the Senate Natural Resources and Rural Affairs committee, or its successor committee, and the Chairperson of the House of Representatives Natural Resources and Public Safety committee, or its successor committee "a specific and detailed accounting for all monies spent in accordance with this section for (a) construction of new off-highway vehicle trails, (b) mitigation of damages to lands, (c) revegetation, (d) the prevention and restoration of damages to natural and cultural resources, (e) signage, (f) maps and (g) necessary environmental,

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historical and cultural clearance or compliance activities.” NOTE: Some money awarded to these projects had accumulated prior January 2009. The projects in this report were approved between May 2010 and June 2011.

(a) Construction of new off-highway vehicle trails – expenditures in this category include trail renovation and relocation, addition of support facilities such as staging areas and restrooms. As of June 30, 2011 eight (8) projects have received \$424,041 and are in various stages of completion.

(b) Mitigation of damages to lands – expenditures in this category include fencing or pipe railings and other means to keep OHV operators out of specific areas. As of June 30, 2011 three (3) projects have received \$57,947 and are in various stages of completion.

(c) Revegetation – expenditures in this category include the costs to transplant cacti and scrubs, seed, and spread ground cover. As of June 30, 2011 one (1) project has received \$19,500 and has not been completed.

(d) The prevention and restoration of damages to natural and cultural resources – expenditures in this category include trail and access road hardening and application of dust suppressant to reduce air pollution. As of June 30, 2011 one (1) project has received \$40,236 and has been completed.

(e) Signage – expenditures in this category include the costs to install route markers, regulatory and informational signs, and kiosks. As of June 30, 2011 nine (9) projects have received \$105,648 and are in various stages of completion.

(f) Maps – are being prepared by the federal land managing agencies in response to mandated motor vehicle travel planning efforts. During the identified period, no funds have been provided for maps.

(g) Necessary environmental, historical and cultural clearance or compliance activities - expenditures in this category include the costs associated with meeting National Environment Policy Act (NEPA), Section 106, and State Historic Preservation Office requirements prior to ground disturbance. As of June 30, 2011 two (2) projects have received \$19,300 and have not been completed.

Project funds totaling \$1,241,725 have been awarded from January 2009 thru June 2011. Some of these funds are used as match for federal Recreational Trail Program funds totaling \$674,173 and the project sponsors are providing \$140,418 in match toward these projects.